INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—On the 4th inst., the second part of Mr. Jackson's paper "On the Engineering of the Rhine and the Moselle," was read. It consisted to a considerable extent of a translation of an account of the Spurs, Groines, and other works on the Moselle, for restricting the dimensions of the bed of that river, and increasing the depth of the water, so as to enable the navigation to be carried on which would otherwise be averted in the low-water seasons. It was shown that to effect this, numerous arms of the river had been dammed across and allowed to silt up, the course had been straightened, elbows had been cut off, and the convex shores, after being silted up by deposit between the groins, were defended by arming of fascines, &c. Division banks had been established for the inflowing rivulets, so as to carry the gravel to greater distance down the stream. Rocks also were removed by powder, and general improvements to such an extent were executed, that the river was comparatively under good control. The account of the Rhine was then resumed; and after detailing the various plans that had been proposed for ameliorating its course, giving numerous tables of Blanken's and Bolstra's experiments as to the tides, the inclination of the beds of the various rivers, the duration of the ebb and flow and average height of the river at the time of new and full moon, the height of various dykes above the extraordinary flood line, &c., — the paper finished with some general views.

PRODUCTION OF THE BEAUTIFUL.—At a meeting of the Royal Scottish Society of Arts, on the 13th ult., a paper by Mr. Thos. Purdie was read, "On the Production of the Beautiful"—an attempt to prove that the theory advocated in the papers read by Mr. D. R. Hay before the society, founded on the development of the harmonic ratios, is fallacious. Mr. Purdie stated the nature of the theory under consideration, and endeavoured to shew the fallacies contained in it, and in others of a similar nature which attributed beauty to proportion. He followed this with some remarks on the fallacy of all theories which assume proportion as their basis; and concluded the reading of his paper by characterising all attempts to establish a theory on such grounds as this, in the words of Lord Jeffrey, as "dogmatising from a few examples, instead of defining any general comprehensive principle, in which all beauty may be supposed essentially to consist,"—an attempt, he continued, as reasonable, and of precisely the same nature, as that of a man who, setting out with the premises that every oak tree is a vegetable, attempts therefrom to prove that every vegetable must be an oak tree.

HEATING CHURCHES.—According to the Glasgow papers, the church at Dornoch has narrowly escaped being the scene of a serious accident. The church was warmed by pipes from a heating apparatus in an outhouse adjoining, and the fire being lighted on Saturday, the boiler burst with a tremendous explosion, and nearly suffocated the person who attended to it.

VERANDAHS IN CEYLON.—Nearly all the houses in Colombo, Ceylon, had verandahs before them, and the Government has been clearing them all away, on the ground that they obstructed the streets. A petition was presented in the House of Lords the other night, complaining of this interference, but Earl Grey said that wherever parties had been able to prove that the verandah was on their own ground, compensation had been paid.

ADVOCACY OF SANITARY REFORM BY THE CLERGY.—A meeting of the incumbents of metropolitan parishes for this purpose was held at 79, Pall Mall, on Wednesday week, the Bishop of London in the chair. Deputations from the Sanitary Commission, consisting of Mr. Chadwick and Dr. Southwood Smith, and from the Health of Towns Association, consisting of Lord Ashley, Dr. Guy, and Mr. J. W. Tottie, were received, and a resolution was unanimously passed, expressive of the necessity and duty of sanitary legislation, even as an aid to the clergy in the removal of a serious obstacle to the efficacy of their ministry amongst the more densely-populated districts of the metropolis. Petitions are to be presented by the clergy to the Legislature to that effect.

ELECTRO-MAGNETIC POWER, MOTIVE OR LOCOMOTIVE.—It has been suggested that motive power, and particularly locomotive, might be acquired by means of wheels, with a numerous series of electro-magnets radiating from the centre, and working by successive attraction along an under and an upper line of rail, each of the four quadrants of the wheel being positively electrified as it came to face the under rail, and thus successively attracted by, or rather attracting, the metal, and producing both rotary and progressive (or revolutional?) motion. The mere idea of employing a series of magnets in the production of rotary motion is not a new one.

VALUE OF LAND IN GLOUCESTER.—The Midland Railway Company required a piece of land adjoining their goods station, belonging to Bartholomew's Hospital; and not being able to agree as to price, an inquiry took place in Gloucester last week, before a sheriff's jury, to assess the value of the same. The land consisted of about an acre and a quarter, and had been occupied for many years as a rope-walk, at 30*l.* per annum, but was becoming available for building. The sum asked by the trustees was 1,500*l.*; the Railway Company offered 800*l.* After hearing surveyors, &c., the jury gave 1,100*l.*

TENDERS

For the new University Hall, Gordon-square. Mr. Donaldson, Architect.

Lawrence and Son	£11,100
Lock and Nesham	10,999
Kelk	10,338
Wilkinson	10,284
Cubitt and Co.	9,950
Curtis	9,744
Grimsdell	9,493
Rigby	9,499
Jay	9,164

For rebuilding a house and office at Aldermaston, Berks, under the direction of Mr. Hardwick, Jun.

Piper	£22,340
Cubitt and Co.	21,300
Grimsdell	21,179
Haward and Nixon	20,196

For the erection of twenty-one houses at Westbourne Grove West, Paddington, April 12, 1848, at the office of Mr. Richards, Old Jewry, City:—

Norris	£17,370
Glenn	15,442
Perry	15,420
Higgs and Son	14,677
Higgs	13,674
Pollard and Co.	13,174

For works to be done at Elham Union, in the erecting schools, &c., Mr. J. Messenger, Architect, Folkestone:—

Kelson	£1,349 0
Cosens	1,325 0
Horton	1,285 0
Lucas	1,115 18
Fry	1,105 0
Holden	971 12

MEETINGS OF SCIENTIFIC BODIES

Held during the ensuing week.

MONDAY, APRIL 17.—Institute of Architects, 8 P.M.

TUESDAY, 18.—Institution of Civil Engineers, 8 P.M.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"*G. T. G.*" would find it difficult to substantiate his claim at law.

"*J. P.*"—Similar recommendation has already appeared in THE BUILDER. Greater part of his article was printed, the remainder destroyed.

"*C. C.*" shall hear from us.

"*E. K.*"—A revision of prices is promised. We will look to it.

"*Surveyor of Milton.*"—The surveyors whose tender for the assessment was accepted, wish us to state that "their tender was exclusive of some items which the others included."

"*Subscriber*," who wishes to know how to repolish some marquetry work, had better put it into practical hands.

"*Rider.*"—We shall be happy to see the tracing.

"*R. R.*" leaves our correspondent's statement uncontradicted.

"*A. B.*"—To give the information asked for would take more time than we can afford.

"*Ardent Student.*"—A knowledge of "Euclid's Elements," if not "*indispensable*," is one of the best things he can set himself to acquire.

"*One in Authority.*"—Whether our correspondent likes our remarks or not, is perfectly indifferent to us. Our duty is to the public.

"*H. H.*"—We regret an enforced postponement: it shall appear next week.

"*A. Z.*" will not find it difficult to get half a dozen builders to tender without having the quantities furnished. Apply to some whose names appear in the present number.

Received.—"J. A.," "R. C.," "J. D.," "J. W. W.," "C. W. O.," "J. J. M.," (declined with thanks), "Rev. J. F.," "W. C., Liverpool," (sent), "Observer," "J. B. R.," "P. F.," "J. S. H." (we decline interference), "W. B.," "J. S., Derby" (we do not know), "C. N."

"*Books, Prices, and Addresses.*"—We have not time to point out books or find addresses.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

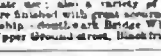
PREPARED FLOORING BOARDS.

ALWAYS ON SALE, a Large Assortment of DRY PREPARED FLOORING BOARDS and MATCHED BOARDING of all sorts, planed to a parallel width and thickness, from 1 inch to 4 inch thick. TIMBER, DEALS, OAK PLANKS, SCANTLINGS, BASE MILLS, &c.

Apply at W. CLEAVE'S Timber Yard, Wilton-road, Pimlico; C. Moore and Sons, and Great Smith-street, Westminster.—Mouldings prepared by machinery.

ALFRED ROSLING begs to inform the Trade and Consumers generally, that he keeps constantly in stock a large and very superior assortment of Prepared Floor Boards and Matched Boarding, planed to a parallel breadth and thickness, and fit for immediate use; also a variety of machine-prepared Mouldings, which are finished with great accuracy and attention to quality of workmanship.—Gentle's ark Bridge Wharf, Bankside, and Old Barge Wharf, Upper Ground-street, Blackfriars.

T. ADAMS (from Byron and Co.), late S. Dare, MAHOGANY and TIMBER MERCHANT, Removed to his New Road, near the Brunswick Arms, SEASONED PLANKING, MATCH BOARDING, FIT FOR IMMEDIATE USE, and MOULDINGS prepared by machinery. Cut levels and deafening of every dimension. Mahogany, Cedar, Rosewood, Wainscot, Elm, Beech, Oak, &c., in planks, boards, veneers and logs; Danzile, Oak, and Fir planks, Wheelwrights' Goods. All sawn and prepared goods delivered free of expense (except timber). Sawing charged at mill prices. Very extensive Drying Sheds.

MUIR'S PATENT  PLANING MACHINE.

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TIMBER of any size, PLANK, DEALS, and BATTENS, &c., Sawn on the most approved principle, Boarded, &c., Prepared, Matched, and Grooved, by Muir's Patent Machinery. The Mills have all the advantages of navigation and water-carriage, being connected with the Thames by the Grosvenor Canal. Goods fetched from the docks and carted home free of charge.

Address to HENRY SCOTHAM, Saw Mills, Gillingham-street, Pimlico.

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CAUTION TO COOKS.—T. L. BENHAM and SONS beg to remind all persons having boilers at the back of their kitchen fires of the necessity of having them cleaned out at least once a year, either by a smith or any other competent person, as the only means that reasonably called "Pure," which is depended from the safety (unless otherwise be thick), to expose the boiler to very serious and often irremediable damage from the action of the fire.—13, Wigmore-street, Cavendish-square.

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STONE, CHALK, PLASTER, SAND, &c. —TO CAPITALISTS.—Valuable Investment.—The produce of soft stone or chalk quarries, &c., are ascertained and rendered impervious to atmospheric action, so as to supersede other materials in quality, durability, and cheapness, for all building, paving, hydraulic, monumental, and decorative purposes. Engineers, architects, sculptors, &c., are earnestly invited to inspect various specimens of further particulars are offered, to persons for parties, on their application to Messrs. HUTCHINSON, WILFORD, and Co., the Patentees, East Temple Chambers, Whitefriars, Fleet-street.

MOSER and Co. respectfully inform the Nobility and Gentry, their lease having expired, they intend REMOVING TO PREMISES NEXT DOOR, in consequence of which they are compelled to SELL at a GREAT REDUCTION on the original cost, a large portion of their IMMENSE STOCK, consisting of beautifully sculptured Marble Chimney Pieces, in the Louis XIV. and Elizabethan styles, Ormolu Candelabra, and Fire Irons, of beautiful design; Pieces of every description, allowed by competent judges to be the finest and largest assortment of the kind in England.—May now be viewed.—The business carried on precisely as usual.—No. 24 and 26, Frith-street, Soho-square.

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These Pencils are prepared in various degrees of hardness and shades.

H H H H for drawing on wood.	F F light and shading.
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H for sketching.	B B ditto ditto.
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M medium.	B B B B ditto ditto.

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	Per Ton.
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